



News Release

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Contacts: Janet Jackson Charles, WIC Nutrition Program
Gordon MacCracken, Communications Office

360-236-3697
360-236-4072

Want to comment on WIC Nutrition Program? Now's your chance

Deadline for public's remarks is May 25 as part of planning process for coming year

OLYMPIA — The nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) wants to hear from people who use or know about the services provided to Washington families.

“Every year, we ask for feedback from people around the state on the WIC services provided in their communities,” said Janet Jackson Charles, State WIC Nutrition Program director. “As we refine our program plan for next year, we invite comments on WIC services and processes. The public can see our current program goals and nutrition services plan on [our Web site](#).”

Every year, Washington WIC provides \$128 million worth of nutritious food to more than 292,000 women and children. More than 50 percent of all infants born in Washington receive benefits from the WIC nutrition program.

To make it easier for Washington families to make healthy choices, WIC provides a broad range of services, from healthy foods and nutrition education to help with getting preventive health services such as prenatal care, immunizations, dental care and family planning. Breastfeeding promotion and support are also important program priorities.

“Some of the best ideas for improving services come from the families receiving WIC services and grocery store staff where clients use WIC checks to purchase healthy foods,” said Charles. “Parents share with us what they think about our nutrition education and customer service. They often tell us how WIC helped their families to be healthier. Grocers have shared ideas about how we can make it easier for them to support the program in their communities.”

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WIC public comment period

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Comments about the WIC program may be e-mailed to WICStatePlan@doh.wa.gov or mailed to WIC Director, Washington State WIC Nutrition Program, P.O. Box 47886, Olympia, WA 98504-7886. People may also fax comments to 360-236-2345. To reach WIC by phone, call 1-800-841-1410 and press 0 for the operator.

All comments must be received by May 25, 2009, to be considered in the 2010 planning process.

[The WIC program](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/WIC/contact.htm) Web site (<http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/WIC/contact.htm>) has information online. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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